

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 917

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Bruce Pearl on the celebration of his fiftieth birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, head basketball coach of the Tennessee Volunteers, Bruce Pearl, celebrated his fiftieth birthday on March 18, 2010, a milestone that was commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, Coach Pearl has established himself as one of the preeminent figures in collegiate men's basketball, and basketball purists throughout the country have proclaimed his fundamental coaching system to be a proven winner; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Pearl was born in Boston, Massachusetts on March 18, 1960 and graduated from Boston College in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in Business; and

WHEREAS, Coach Pearl honed his skills as a Student Assistant at Boston College, an Assistant and Associate Coach at Stanford University, and an Assistant Coach at the University of Iowa before establishing his well-deserved reputation for excellence during head coaching stints at the University of Southern Indiana and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, a man of the utmost character and principle, Bruce Pearl has led the University of Tennessee men's basketball program for five years, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues, players, faculty, administration, and fans alike for his exceptional coaching abilities, basketball expertise, and leadership skills; and

WHEREAS, renowned as one of the most accomplished coaches in collegiate basketball, Coach Pearl has already led the Volunteers to the Sweet Sixteen twice and made Tennessee basketball history this year when the team reached the Elite Eight; and

WHEREAS, as a mentor and father figure, Coach Pearl has emphasized to his players the concepts of good sportsmanship, commitment to academics, and overall integrity, instilling in them a set of values that will carry them forward in life; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Pearl also served as the head coach for the Maccabi USA basketball team in the 2009 World Maccabiah Games, leading them to a gold medal; and

WHEREAS, when he is not on the basketball court, Coach Pearl enjoys golfing, boating, traveling, and spending time with his wonderful family; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Bruce Pearl is most grateful for the love and support he shares with his beloved wife, Brandy Pearl; his daughters, Jacqui and Leah; and his sons, Steven and Michael; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Bruce Pearl on the celebration of his fiftieth birthday and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.